REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

As suggested by the Examiner, a separate Information Disclosure Statement is provided herewith that lists the documents noted in the originally filed specification.

The specification informality on page 4 noted by the Examiner is corrected.

The specification is also amended to include material previously incorporated by reference.

The various 35 USC 112 rejections of the claims have been corrected. The prior art grounds of rejection are respectfully traversed.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6 and 10.

The subject matter of original claim 5 has been incorporated into claim 1. It is believed that claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinct from the prior art.

The prior art as provided by Coates, Saunders and Simms et al does not encompass the scope of the invention as claimed in the new claim 1. None of the documents solely or in combination teaches or even suggests a solution directed at having the inlet opening centrally positioned in the limiting surface for obtaining a radial suspension flow in the measuring field. The above documents on the contrary teach away from such a solution not wanting to obscure the radiation path with a suspension inlet positioning according to the solution as claimed.

The centrally positioned inlet according to the invention accomplishes a radial flow of the suspension towards the periphery of the circularly defined measuring field thus decreasing turbulent disturbance from edge effects. Hence homogeneous flow properties for the

suspension are achieved enabling multiple simultaneous measurements with mutual correspondence through at least two cameras positioned at substantially the same radial distance from the suspension inlet centre. Flow properties for the suspension should then be the same at the same radial distance from the inlet centre and a deviation between two measurements performed simultaneously would therefore instantly indicate a possible clogging of fibres and that the measurement should be repeated.

Furthermore, in cases when fiber flexibility is to be measured, the requirements on homogenous and stable suspension flow properties are of vital importance for obtaining a useful result. Two simultaneous camera measurements can then be combined to form more precise results for a single fiber flexibility measurement. The solution according the invention as claimed is therefore well suited for such measurements.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, a Notice of Allowance for the claims, as amended, is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosure: Appendix

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Amended) [Devices] A device for measuring [fibre] fiber properties in a flowing suspension [characterized in that it includes] comprising:

a measuring cell [(10) in which there is] ;

a measuring field [(48)] defined between two limiting surfaces of the cell; and

[a] means [(56) of] for adjusting the width of the measuring field [(48), that] ;

wherein the limiting surfaces have two opposing transparent sections [(60, 62)] that allow illumination through the flowing suspension passing through and measurement by optical means, and

[plus that] wherein the measuring cell [(10)] has an inlet opening [(38)] intended for the whole of the suspension flow, the inlet opening being positioned centrally with regard to one limiting surface to obtain a radial suspension flow in the measuring field having circular limiting surfaces with a pressure that diminishes in a radial direction and an outlet opening [(40)] intended for the whole of the suspension flow.

2. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the inlet opening [(38)] extends through one of the limiting surfaces [and that] the device further including an inlet tube [(42)] for directing and [stabilising] stabilizing the suspension flow [is] connected to the inlet opening [(38)] and [has] having a length that is greater than its width.

3. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1 [characterised in that] wherein the periphery of the other limiting surface extends to reach an outer wall [(36)] of the measuring cell [(10)] and that a intermediate space [occurs] is defined between the periphery of [the] said one limiting surface and the outer wall [(36)] to form a peripheral field [(54)].

4. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein distance between the limiting surfaces is adjustable within the range of 0.5-5 mm.

6. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein the other limiting surface is rotatable by the aid of a motor [(72)].

7. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein the area of [the] an inlet tube to the inlet opening [(42)] across the direction of flow is greater than the area of the measuring field [(48)] across the direction of flow immediately after the inlet opening [(38)].

8. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that the] wherein [said] an outer wall [(36)] of the measuring cell [(10)] is provided with stop elements [(66, 68)] to limit the movement of the [piston cylinder] adjusting means in an upper and a lower position.

9. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein the inlet opening [(38)] is positioned centrally with regard to [the] said one limiting

surface to obtain a radial suspension flow in the measuring field [(48)] with a pressure that diminishes in a radial direction.

10. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 1, [characterised in that] wherein [the moveable] one of the limiting [surface] surfaces can rotate with the aid of a motor [(72)].

11. (Amended) [Device] A device according to claim 2, [characterised in that] wherein the area of the inlet tube [(42)] across the direction of flow is greater than the area of the measuring field [(48)] across the direction of flow immediately after the inlet opening [(38)].

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 3, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 29 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

The actual measuring cell 10 and its key parts for the invention are more evident in Fig. 2. Measuring cell 10 has the shape of a cylindrical measuring cell that is limited by a plane circular upper wall 32 and a plane circular lower wall 34. The cylindrical wall 36 of the measuring cell and both circular walls 32, 34 are all suitably manufactured in metal. There is a central inlet opening 38 for a suspension flow in the middle of lower wall 34 and an equivalent outlet opening 40 in cylindrical wall 36. In the current example, the axes for both openings 38, 40 form an angle of 90° to one another. A cylindrical inlet pipe 42 to direct and stabilise the incoming suspension flow is connected to inlet opening 38. Inlet pipe 42 has a length that is several times greater than its width. Inside measuring cell 10, there are two

glass plates 44, 46 that are flat and parallel with one another. A measuring field 48 for the suspension flow is defined between both glass plates 44, 46. The suspension flow enters via inlet opening 38 in lower wall 34 and a central opening 50 in the lower glass plate [34] 44 that is associated with inlet opening 38 and located at its centre.

End of Appendix